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January 8, 1917, Temperature 6 a.m. 42 2 p.m. 47
Humidity 65 " 34

January 8, 1917, Temperature 6 a.m. 59 2 p.m. 68
Humidity 86 " 67

7556 日五十月五

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1917.

一月八日英港

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TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE GREEK CRISIS.

Preparing for War Against the Allies.

January 6, 2.30 p.m.

Apparently the Greek Government is preparing for war against the Entente.

The pro-German Press, in most violent language, declares that the blockade has caused an intolerable situation.

Reservists are being secretly enrolled and are ordered to be ready to join their regiments at an hour's notice.

AUSTRIAN EMPEROR'S DRASIC ACTION.

Rooting Out Pro-German Officials.

January 5, 2.30 p.m.

There is much speculation as to the attitude of Emperor Charles of Austria, who has displayed an unexpected determination in weeding out officials of the old regime. The remarkable fact is that most of the dismissed are of notorious pro-Germans.

The latest dismissals include Baron Maccio, the principal departmental chief of the Foreign Office; and Count Forgach, the second chief; to whose machinations the war was largely due.

It is reported that the Emperor is going to Budapest to supervise the reorganisation of the Government and the rooting out of the pro-Germans.

Another significant move is the unmasking of the Austrian Socialists, who are now permitted even to demand the evacuation of Allied territories in the west and the south.

AGRICULTURAL REVIVAL PREDICTED.

January 7, 3.55 a.m.

Mr. Prothero, President of the Board of Agriculture, speaking at Bedford, forecasted a great revival of agriculture as a result of the war. He appealed to farmers to produce all they could for man and beast, and said he intended to establish clubs for growing potatoes and for pig-keeping, with the help of the Treasury.

INDIAN POST-WAR PROBLEMS.

January 6, 2.30 p.m.

Discussing the Raj's investigations in regard to post-war trade, the *Times* remarks that some limitations will be required regarding the way in which minerals may be dealt with after extraction, in order to prevent their being used against us in war.

In regard to shipping, it points out that India will be able to bargain for fair treatment, since she may prohibit or restrict the employment of lascars on alien ships.

In regard to tariff problems, it says, in view of the possibility of dumping after the war, it is necessary to consider the effect of a heavy or moderate duty on enemy imports and a preferential tariff, graded according to the country of origin.

A Cowardly Ruse.

January 6, 2.30 p.m.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, the *Telegraaf* states that a Dutch ship returning from the Dutch East Indies received a distress signal in the Bay of Biscay. She proceeded to the spot and found a German submarine not in the least distressed, whose commander was most disappointed at the arrival of a Dutch, instead of an English, steamer.

Latest Sinking.

January 6, 2.30 p.m.

The latest sinkings reported are the Norwegian steamer *Helgoy* and the Greek steamer *Triopinas*.

ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

French Aerial Squadrons Busy.

January 7, 4.35 p.m.

A French communiqué says:—There have been bombing encounters west of the Meuse.

Our artillery frequently bombarded the northern slopes of Hill 285 and German defences near Mort Homme.

An enemy coup de main east of the Meuse failed completely.

Attempted enemy attacks in the Vosges were stopped by our fire.

One of our aeroplane squadrons bombarded aerodromes at Hancourt and Matigny, the railway station at Arcigny, enemy cantonments at Liancourt wood, and depots at Attiche.

Weather Restricts Fighting.

January 7, 6.25 p.m.

A German wireless official message says:—An English attack, south of Arras broke down under gunfire.

The weather restricted fighting.

Artillery Struggle in Belgium.

January 8, 12.20 a.m.

A French communiqué reports a lively artillery struggle in the sector of Nieuport-Bains, Belgium.

A Successful British Raid.

January 7, 11.20 p.m.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We completely repulsed an attack at Beaumont Hamel and successfully carried out a raid to the south of Armentières, taking nineteen prisoners.

A short, heavy bombardment in the morning preceded an attempt to enter our trenches to the south-west of Wytschaete, but the enemy was driven off in disorder with considerable losses.

Our fire drove off an attempt to the north of Ypres under cover of an intense bombardment.

SPLENDID ITALIAN ADVANCE.

January 7, 6.25 p.m.

A wireless official Italian message says:—We have advanced 500 metres on the Cane front.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

GERMANY GETTING RECKLESS.

British Merchantmen to be Sunk Wholesale.

January 7, 3.55 a.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam states that another indication that Germany is likely to run amok at any moment is contained in the Dutch pro-German organ, the *Totenkopf*, intimating that the Germans regard all British merchantmen as auxiliary cruisers, which will be sunk without regard to life. It warns neutrals that their flags will not protect them.

German Boasting.

January 7, 3.55 a.m.

The German Emperor's Order to the Army and Navy has started a new outburst of boasting in the German Press, which shouts with joy at the capture of Braila, although a German official message admits that the place was an empty shell.

A Blow Through Switzerland?

January 7, 2.45 p.m.

In view of the possibility of Germany meditating a blow at France through Switzerland, it is noteworthy that the French Government, according to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, has recently renewed assurances to the Swiss Government that France will strongly respect Swiss neutrality.

Starving Germans.

January 6, 2.30 p.m.

Reuter learns from an authoritative source that at no period of the war has there been such striking evidence of rapid and progressive economic deterioration in enemy countries as during the past two months.

Expectation of huge hauls of oil and grain from Rumania have not been realised, and owing to the failure of the potato harvest the population in many parts of Germany is starving.

THE BALKAN STRUGGLE.

Capture of Braila.

January 6, 2.30 p.m.

Braila, which has been captured by the enemy, is normally a great grain depot, but the stores were probably destroyed, as the German communiqué does not mention any booty.

Germans Admit Russian Advance.

January 7, 6.25 p.m.

A German wireless official message states:—A strong Russian attack failed at Mitau. We took 1,300 prisoners, and have pushed back the Russo-Rumanians between Oituz Valley and Patna Valley and stormed the summit of Odolesti.

The Russians attacked on a twenty-five-kilometre front between Focani and Fădăni and advanced in the direction of Obilesti.

English attempts on Bulgarian advanced posts north-east of Dobrua failed.

The Russian Offensive.

January 7, 6.25 p.m.

A Russian wireless official message says:—In the Riga fighting we took 500 prisoners and surprised and captured trenches.

In the Oituz valley we retired north-west of Focani.

To the east, the Rumanians restored their position at Kapatana in the same area and threw back a dense attack south-west of Focani. We adopted the offensive and reached the line of the Rapsita lake.

SIR SAM HUGHES EXONERATED.

January 7, 2.45 p.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Ottawa states that the report of the investigation of the Militia Departments into the sale of ammunition to the Admiralty completely exonerates General Sir Sam Hughes.

[In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page they will be found on an Extra].

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE BALKAN STRUGGLE.

Successful British Operations.

London, January 6.

A French communiqué reports bad weather in Macedonia, where there is lively mutual artillery activity.

The British successfully operated against Kupri, near the Seret-Domirishia railway.

The British Fleet bombarded Akarvika, Semundolos, south of Orfano.

A German Claim.

London, January 6.

A German official report, received by wireless, says:—The Russians attacked and penetrated our positions in the region between the coast and the Mitau-Riga high road. We, counter-attacking, took 200 prisoners.

Enemy Captures Villages.

London, January 6.

A German official report, received by wireless, says:—We defeated and drove back Russian battalions north-east of Kirilova.

General Mackensen stormed a strong position from Tarnava to Rimanesti, captured villages and advanced towards the Sereth.

Further to the south-east we captured Olancea, Zulianca, and Maxineni, our advance guard reaching the Sereth in Dobrudja. Galata is being subjected to our fire.

Railway Bridge Wrecked.

London, January 6.

The Admiralty announces that Naval aeroplanes attacked and wrecked one span of the Kuldiburgs railway bridge, over the Mariza River.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

THE BALKAN STRUGGLE.

Russian Captures.

London, January 6.

A Russian report by wireless states:—We attacked and captured a position south-west of Kadzien, south-west of Riga, capturing three officers and 272 men.

The enemy compelled us to withdraw two versts southwards of Kotumba.

We occupied a height southward of the Oituz River.

Romanians Pressed Back.

London, January 6.

A Russian report by wireless states:—Superior enemy forces pressed back the Romanians at Rezeka, on the Suci River. The Romanians were also pressed back in the region of Kopruria, and north-westward of Odobesci.

The enemy offensive at Rumaneni, Gulanca, Kioven and Machineni pressed back our advanced posts four versts, after stubborn resistance.

Russians Abandon Braila.

London, January 7.

A wireless German official message states:—The Russians destroyed most of the factories before abandoning Braila.

Austrians Repel Strong Advance.

London, January 7.

A wireless Austrian official statement announces that the Austro-Hungarians and the Germans captured several hills near Mount Faltucau. We repelled a strong advance to the north-east of Kirilova, making prisoners of 700.

THE IVERNIA LOSSES.

London, January 6.

The Admiralty announces that the final number of the rank and file missing from the transport Ivernia, torpedoed in the Mediterranean, is 85.

EAST AFRICAN OPERATIONS.

London, January 6.

An official message from East Africa states:—We are pursuing the retreating enemy in the Rufiji Valley.

We occupied a camp on the Tabogowali River, and reached Kibambwe, on the north bank of the Rufiji. The enemy is holding the south bank.

The enemy was severely handled in the Mgeta Valley.

Our Makalino force attacked small approaching parties, taking prisoners and considerable supplies.

We were engaged eastward of Mfrika, the enemy retreating to Mabenge.

ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

A Successful British Push.

London, January 7.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig says we repulsed a counter-attack and consolidated two posts to the north of Beaumont Hamel.

We successfully raided in the daytime a wide front south-east of Arras and penetrated as far as the third line, destroying many dugouts and doing much damage to the enemy's defences.

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SCRIPPS.

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GENERAL NEWS.

"Fryatt Jetty." The Idea Nationalists state that the Ministers of Marine, Public Works, and Transport have authorised the Mayor of Ancona to name two of the jetties of the port the "Sauro Jetty" and the "Fryatt Jetty" respectively.

Farm Boy, ta M.P. Mr. George Nicholls, ex-M.P. for Northamptonshire, who has been re-elected Mayor of Peterborough started his career as a farm boy at the age of eight. Afterwards he did navy, and later became a lay pastor, and ultimately an M.P. in 1908.

Interesting Retrostal. The engagement is announced between Mr. Cecil H. B. Joly, Chinese Maritime Custom, Ningpo, and Miss G. E. M. ("Edie") Bradgate, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Kemp Bradgate, Chinese Government Railways, Hsinho.

Japanese Lacquer Collection. The three days' sale of the first portion of the Sir Trevor Lawrence's collection of Japanese lacquer produced a total of £1,306. The highest price at Christie's was 300 guineas, paid by Mr. Cory for a cabinet 17 in. by 11 in., entirely covered with imbricated mother-of-pearl scales.

The Loaf. Mr. Bonciman, remarking that wheat prices have fallen a little since November 1, expresses, in Parliamentary Papers, a hope that the position may improve further before long. On November 6 the price of 4lb. of household bread was 10d. and 10d. in London, 7d. in Paris, 1s. 4d. in New York. The price in Petrograd of rye-bread, the kind most commonly consumed in that city, was 4d., and of wheat bread 8d., taking the rate of exchange at par, or 1d. and 1s. 1d. at the present rate of exchange.

Bishops and Church Bells. The Bishop of London has received a letter from the Ministry of Munitions pointing out that church bells on Sunday morning disturb the rest of tired workers seeking sleep after all-night labours, and suggesting that in munition areas the period of the ringing might be shortened or the bells benumbed. The Bishop, in the London Diocesan Magazine, expresses the hope that those whose churches are near munition workers who are resting will meet this request as far as possible. Similar action has been taken by other Bishops.

Death of Mr. H. Leslie. The Pall Mall Gazette regrets to announce the death of Mr. Henry Leslie, one of its former managers. Mr. Leslie joined the journal named in the early days when Mr. Yates Thompson became its proprietor. He was then assistant to Mr. Horace Voules, who afterwards commenced a long career in connection with Truth. Mr. Leslie proved his great organising ability, and was appointed to succeed Mr. Voules as manager of the paper. For many years he exercised control, and served under such famous editors as Lord Morley, Mr. Stead, Sir E. T. Cook, and Mr. Cost. Mr. Leslie's health broke down some fifteen years ago, and he lived in retirement until his death.

30s. A Week at Sixties. A boy of 16, Frederick William Spender, a metal Turner, was remanded at North London Police Court on a charge of stealing articles value £3 7s. 6d., the property of his father, who resides in Stoke Newington-road. It was stated that the boy had been engaged in a munition works, where he could earn up to 30s. a week. He left home and went to reside at a lodging-house in Whitechapel, but lately it was alleged that the lad neglected his work. He was suspected of breaking into his father's house, and, besides stealing, doing considerable damage, and he was arrested by Detective Sergeant Balafid as he was leaving a picture palace. He told the magistrate that he took the money to satisfy a week's holiday before joining the Navy.

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Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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BIRTHS.

ADDIS.—December 1, at 6A, Primrose-hill-road, London, wife of Sir Charles Addis, son.

LINTON.—November 28, at Ashtead, Surrey, wife of A. R. Linton, son.

LOW.—December 3, at Hayward's Heath, wife of H. A. Low, of Penang, daughter.

MARRIAGE.

MUSTARD—SPEER.—November 28, at Balcombe, Andrew Mustard, to Violet Marion Loraine, daughter of Dr. Speer.

DEATH.

CLEMENTI-SMITH.—November 29, at Bognor, Dame Teresa Clementi-Smith, widow of Right Honourable Sir Cecil Clementi-Smith, G.C.M.G.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1917.

THE GREEK DEVELOPMENTS.

A new turn in Greek affairs was indicated by the telegram which came to hand on Saturday, stating that King Constantine and his pro-German supporters had decided that the latest Allied Note was unacceptable, that they were resolved to reject certain of its clauses and passively to submit to the consequences. Though on the occasions when the previous demands of the Allies were submitted, the Greek Government for a time displayed an inclination to kick, it always eventually caved in and conceded the points asked for. Now, however, it seems to have come to the conclusion deliberately to resist. The seriousness of the situation, therefore, must be admitted, the more so since King Constantine and his troops have not been above acts of direct treachery and duplicity in the recent past.

The reason given for according a hostile reception to the Allied Note is that acceptance of it would be equivalent to a recognition that Greece contemplated attacking General Sarrail's rear. What guarantees have we that she has abandoned the idea? None whatever, save the word of the King—and in that the Allies have good reason, by this time, to be wary of placing any trust. At any rate, the risks of further treachery are too great to run, and the Allies are only exercising common prudence when they seek to remove all possible sources of danger by making the demands which they have put forward, and with which Greece now objects to comply. If we wish for evidence of the futility of placing any faith in King Constantine's promise, we have only to recall the events at Athens in the early days of last month. We have just been reading the story of those occurrences as told by Mr. G. J. Steven, the *Daily Telegraph* special correspondent, who was an eye-witness of what then took place. It is clear from his account that the Greek attack on the Allied detachments was an act of premeditated treachery on the part of King Constantine's forces. The correspondent, writing a day after these happenings, in which the Allies suffered considerable casualties and had to withdraw after unequal fighting, put the situation very plainly when he said:—"Admiral Fournet, in all sincerity, placed faith in the assurances and promises given him by King Constantine. While our mixed force of three thousand French, British and Italians marched on to Athens, convinced that the Greeks would in no case attack first, their King, Government and General Staff were preparing a trap into which our force walked."

But, apart from the particular incident cited, the correspondent whom we have quoted foresees a graver danger still. He states that the Royalists were quietly mobilising, that they were preparing for war against the Allies, and that they were merely seeking to gain time, "both to mobilise as many men as possible and to give time for Mackensen's forces, which they expect to arrive on the Monastir front, and with those forces they intend to co-operate by attacking General Sarrail's flank." With circumstances like these staring us in the face, would it not be the absolute height of folly to place any reliance on King Constantine's assurances? The Allies know him well by now; they have suffered bloodshed by trusting to his promises. They will be guilty of criminal madness if they pay the slightest heed to his latest protestations. He and the clique by whom he is surrounded—the men who have brought grave hardships on their fellow-countrymen—must be made to realise that this time the Allies mean business. Any concessions to King Constantine will be equivalent to asking for further and greater trouble.

The "Pall Mall Gazette."

Yesterday's wires speak of yet one more change of ownership for the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The change will, more likely than not, involve another alteration in the political policy of the great evening paper, but this will not be without precedent. The paper was founded in 1865 and was edited by Mr. Frederick Greenwood during its first fifteen years of life; and for that period it was a Conservative journal. In 1880 Mr. John (now Lord) Morley became editor, and naturally used the *Pall Mall* in the interests of the Liberal party. After various other changes—both in editorship and in ownership—it became a recognised organ of independent political thought with a frank bias in favour of Conservatism. Under Mr. J. L. Gervin, the present editor of the *Observer*, it became definitely the mouthpiece of the anti-Radicals. The present purchaser, by the way, is also managing director of *Reynolds'*. At all periods of its history the *Pall Mall* has possessed an undeniable literary quality, and its book reviews, dramatic and art criticisms were a feature that appealed to a very wide public.

The Late Mr. Selous.

Mr. F. C. Selous, who is reported killed in action in East Africa, has met the death that he probably would have chosen for himself. He was a born fighting man, and Africa had become to him as his own country. As a boy of 10: quite twenty he turned his steps Africa-wards, in 1871, and from that time onwards he was rarely anywhere else for more than short periods of time. As a great hunter he had few equals, and no white man living could have told him more than he knew on the subject of lion and elephant shooting. But Selous was a good deal more than a layer of beasts and a guide. His wild life left him free to dive deeply into zoological science, and his contributions in book form to the world's knowledge of animal life have a very distinct worth in the eyes of the general public and of scientists as well. The records of his travels are likewise valuable, for there was scarcely a quarter of the southern portion of Africa which he had not visited. As a sportsman in every sense of the word, he was universally popular, and he will be remembered, not only as a mighty hunter and a writer but also as a noble-souled gentleman who gave his life for the Empire at the age of sixty-five.

Things in Austria.

One of to-day's wires records the fact that the new Emperor of Austria is already instituting some very radical changes in the administration of the two countries, and that the bulk of his energy seems just now to be directed against the pro-Germans. It is only by chance that outsiders ever come to bear of the exact position between Germany and Austria, and of the latter's real attitude towards the former. Now and then isolated truths leak out and appear in the Allied press, but generally such truths are well guarded and the world is left, for want of more reliable information, to speculate and to deduce. This is not particularly difficult for those who start with a certain outline knowledge of the situation and who are prepared to give full value to the temperamental differences between the Austrian and the Prussian. The Austrian was at one time a gentleman: the Prussian never could have been this under any circumstances whatever. Evil communications have now corrupted good manners, and though the Austrian can hardly hope to rival the German in general baseness, under careful tuition he can become a passable imitator. But at heart the Austrian has little fondness for his ally, for he knows that, but for Germany, his country might be at peace to-day. It was generally understood that the old Emperor was entirely in the hands of Kaiser Wilhelm, and that, short of the whole nation's surrender, nothing could free Austria from the Prussian yoke till the end of the war. But the new man appears to possess a will of his own, the exercise of which may yet bring about some very interesting developments in the enemy camp.

But, apart from the particular incident cited, the correspondent whom we have quoted foresees a graver danger still. He states that the Royalists were quietly mobilising, that they were preparing for war against the Allies, and that they were merely seeking to gain time, "both to mobilise as many men as possible and to give time for Mackensen's forces, which they expect to arrive on the Monastir front, and with those forces they intend to co-operate by attacking General Sarrail's flank." With circumstances like these staring us in the face, would it not be the absolute height of folly to place any reliance on King Constantine's assurances? The Allies know him well by now; they have suffered bloodshed by trusting to his promises. They will be guilty of criminal madness if they pay the slightest heed to his latest protestations. He and the clique by whom he is surrounded—the men who have brought grave hardships on their fellow-countrymen—must be made to realise that this time the Allies mean business. Any concessions to King Constantine will be equivalent to asking for further and greater trouble.

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DAY BY DAY.

SO LONG AS WE LOVE, WE SERVE
SO LONG AS I LOVE ALMOST SAY
WE ARE INDESPENSABLE; AND NO
MAN IS USELESS WHILE HE HAS
A FRIEND.—Shawson.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 4/5/16d.

To-morrow's Anniversary.

To-morrow is the 44th anniversary of the death of Napoleon III.

Deck Passengers.

The s.s. *Haitan* brought down 374 deck passengers from Swatow.

For the Troops.

We have to acknowledge with thanks a parcel of reading matter for the troops from Mrs. J. A. Ballin.

Prize Day.

Mr. E. Irving, Director of Education, is to distribute the prizes at St. Joseph's College at 3 p.m. to-morrow.

A Drunken Engineer.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, an engineer, named James Williamson, was charged with being drunk at West Point last night. Defendant did not appear, and his bail of \$5 was estreated.

Percussion Caps.

For having in his possession a large quantity of percussion caps without a permit, a Chinese was fined \$50, by Mr. G. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning. It was stated that the caps were hidden in a pillow box and also concealed in the man's clothing.

Religious Lectures.

A series of religious lectures is to be given in the Helena May Institute. The first will be tomorrow afternoon (Tuesday) at 6.30 when the Bishop of Victoria will lecture on "How we got our Bible." The meeting is open to all women.

Lecture.

The Hon. Mr. Claud Sevren is to deliver a lecture at the Union Church Lecture Hall on Wednesday at 9 p.m., his subject being "British Malaya." The lecture has been arranged by the Union Church Guild, but visitors are welcome.

Twelve Months' Hard Labour.

The case of the deaf and dumb banishee, who was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood a few days ago with returning before he ought, was decided at the Magistracy this morning. His Worship said that the man would no doubt be better off in prison, and passed sentence of one year's hard labour.

Kung Yik Profit and Dividend.

Messrs. Benjamin and Potts advise us that they have received a cable from their Shanghai Office saying that the Kung Yik Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., has declared a dividend of Tls. 0.90. The profit for the year is about one lakh, and Tls. 20,000 have been transferred from Equalization of Dividend Fund. Tls. 40,000 have been written off for Depreciation, and Tls. 7,000 carried forward.

Brass as Gold.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. G. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning, with attempting to obtain money by false pretences, by offering a pawnbroker, which he claimed was made of gold, and also with giving a wrong name and address to the pawnbroker. Mr. Mattingley prosecuted and Mr. J. H. Gardiner defended. Defendant pleaded not guilty, and said he did not tell the pawnbroker that the bangle was a gold one. The case was adjourned until to-morrow.

A Determined Thief.

Although he was seen trying to steal a chain off a boat alongside the Kowloon wharf, and was clouted and driven off, a Chinese thief was later found in Canton Road, with a heavy chain concealed round his waist. Enquiries were made by Sergeant Moody, and it was found that the man must have re-visited the ship and succeeded in getting the chain away. When charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Magistracy this morning, the thief was sentenced to three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

SATURDAY'S BOXING.

Dramatic Ending to Scott-Stapleton Fight.

known the rudiments of defence, which he certainly did not Scott ran him round, and a second before the end of the round, succeeded in getting him in close proximity to his (Stapleton's) corner. There was real fear in Stapleton's eyes now, and he knew, if ever a man did, that his hour had come. He was utterly demoralised and did not know which turn to take to extricate himself from the hopeless situation. His defence had been bad in all truth, but it completely failed him, and Scott, taking time and aim, threw out one of the most terrific blows ever seen in Hongkong, which landed squarely on the point of the seaman's jaw. A heavier man than Stapleton could not have withstood one half of its force; as it was, he went down like a sack of potatoes on the very stroke of the gong. The blow knocked him absolutely unconscious, and his second looked on in dismay. Instead of pulling him to his chair and doing what they could for him, they let what might have been valuable seconds slip by. Not that it would have been of any use, for Stapleton was finished, but it showed very bad management on their part.

When they eventually did wake up to their responsibilities, they had bodily to lift their man to his chair, where he lay as helpless as a corpse. The fact that the interval had gone and that Sergeant Pitt was dolefully counting him out did not have the slightest interest for him. He was laid tenderly on the ground and a busy ten minutes was spent on him, liberal quantities of cold water being applied to his head and body. It was some minutes even then before he woke up—a broken man, who had received tremendous and rapid punishment.

Simes v. Cotton.

Quite a lot of interest was centred in the fight between Pte. Cotton and Seaman Simes, and this was thoroughly justified by events. The contest was one of six two-minute rounds. All through the match Cotton did the leading, but Simes was the more skilful of the two and would have undoubtedly won had he taken the offensive more often than he did; of the two, we liked by far and away his fighting. He showed considerably more skill, and a defence upon which Cotton could make only a slight impression. Cotton, on the other hand, was very enterprising and his quickness of foot assisted him in evading some very useful blows meted out to him, but he seldom got beyond the seaman's guard. It was a good fight, and the only regret we have is that Simes did not do more leading. If he had done, there is not the slightest doubt that the fight would have been his, for he has far more idea of the game than Cotton, who is apt to err on the side of wild swinging, whereas Simes coolly judges his blows. Cotton was awarded a win on points.

Pepson v. Davies.

It was a pity that Davies should have been matched against Pepson, for he was so hopelessly outclassed in every way that he came very near to making a joke of himself. He certainly would have been a leading stock had it not generally been known that he had challenged the seaman without knowing his reputation, though this he showed considerable pluck. Both men scaled 10.7, but they were very ill-matched. Pepson has a reputation as a fighter of which any man may well be proud and it was announced that he challenged any welter-weight in the Far East. Besides being as quick as lightning, he knows every rule of the game, and Davies showed up very badly against him. The seaman, tiger-like, continually drove his man into a corner and chased him round the ring. Davies quickly realised that he had got hold of a man who was far too good for him, but he showed admirable pluck, inasmuch as he did not admit defeat.

Occasionally he landed a blow, which was not at all telling, and it was perfectly obvious that Pepson had allowed him to take the liberty. In the third round, Pepson, driving his man into a corner, gave him a short hooker under which Davies could not stand and he went down. When the gong went for the fourth round he announced his intention

STOLEN FOOTBALL CASES.

Chinese Thief Caught at Lane, Crawford's.

Before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Magistracy this morning, a Chinese was charged with stealing five leather football cases from Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co. The cases were valued at \$50.

Evidence was given by Mr. Scriven, who said that he was walking through the hardware department early on Thursday morning when he saw the man, with another, come from another room with a parcel under his arm. They both walked downstairs, when he stopped them and handed him over to Mr. Ainsley, the head of the department. On the parcel was found an old label, addressed to "Mrs. F. L. Cook, Morrison Hill". The man had no right to have the cases.

Defendant said the cases were given him by the other man.

Mr. Ainsley said they were continually missing things, but it was difficult to trace the thefts.

Sentence of six weeks' hard labour and four hours' stocks was passed.

A Forged Chop.

A shopkeeper, of 20, Des Voeux Road Central, reports to the Police that an assistant accountant of his has obtained, by means of a forged chop, \$10,000 from the Bank of Taiwan, and has disappeared.

tion of not going on. Pepson showed very gentlemanly conduct in not knocking his man out time and again, as he had every opportunity of doing. He is the holder the Metropolitan Police Lonsdale Belt, and from his exhibition on Saturday we are not surprised.

Summerfield v. Smith.

The fight between Seaman Summerfield and Seaman Smith was one which was well worth seeing. Summerfield scales 9.4 and Smith 9.6. Both men were very evenly matched, and both showed that they were capable of considerable skill. As to quickness of feet, Smith was perhaps the more nippy, and from the start made full use of it, avoiding blows which would have caused him some inconvenience had they found their mark. He did the majority of the leading and in the second round harassed Summerfield to no little extent, who at the end of the third round showed signs of exhaustion which had not completely worn off when he came up for the fourth. On the other hand, Smith was as fresh as a daisy and did not tire in his attacks in the least. It was in the sixth and last round that Smith showed up better than ever and left no room for doubt that he would be the winner, which he was ultimately declared.

Plummer v. Beasty.

Those two old opponents, Plummer and Beasty, met again for the Bantam-weight Championship of the Colony in a ten-round contest. Some surprise was perhaps felt that Mr. Bailey, who was doing the refereeing, should award a draw, for Plummer, though this style is not nearly so good as that of Beasty did nearly all the leading and got in more telling blows than his opponent. Beasty withstood these very well and retaliated with one or two which had the effect of spinning Plummer round in a circle.

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Next Sailings from Hongkong:

This vessel has excellent saloon accommodation for a limited number of passengers, is fitted with all modern conveniences and carries a duly qualified surgeon.

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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Hongkong, 30th Dec., 1916.

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Ticket is interchangeable with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services, Ltd.For further information, rates, literature, schedules etc.,
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HONGKONG TO CANTON. | CANTON TO HONGKONG.

MONDAY, 8th JANUARY, 1917.
0.00 p.m. Kinshan. | 5.00 p.m. Fatshan.

TUESDAY, 9th JANUARY, 1917.

8.00 a.m. Honam. | 8.00 a.m. Heungshan.
0.00 p.m. Fatshan. | 5.00 p.m. Kinshan.

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Week days at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf. Sundays, at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

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Week days at 7.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sundays at 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

SUNDAY, 14th JANUARY, 1917.

The Company's Steamship

"TAISHAN"

Will depart from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf at 1 p.m. and return from Macao at 3 p.m.

N.B.—The Company's will also run a Steamer from Macao on Sunday at 7.30 a.m. and from Hongkong at 1 p.m., from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

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One of the above Steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every day, Wednesday, and Friday, at about 8 a.m. and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same day at 8.30 a.m. Round trip about 5 days. Passengers can return to Hongkong or vice versa by the Company's direct Steamers LINTAN and SANU. These vessels have superior Cabin accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity. Electric Fan in each Cabin.

Booking Office open daily (Sundays excepted) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

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Bischoff W. D. Ladd Mr. & Mrs. J. J.
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Baxter Mariner. Ladd Mr. & Mrs. J. J.
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Cox Dr. H. M. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
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Cory Dr. H. M. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
C. G. Miss. Marta. W. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
Coffins M. J. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
Coffins Miss. M. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
Dowley W. A. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
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Duffy Miss. F. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
Douglas Mr. & Mrs. W. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
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Evans W. T. McLoch Mr. and Mrs.
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THE SHARE MARKET QUOTATIONS.

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Banks.	b. \$ 700.00.
Cantons.	b. \$ 377.50.
Unions.	b. \$ 908.00.
Douglas.	b. \$ 115.00.
India (Def.)	b. \$ 134.00.
Steamboats.	b. \$ 20.00.
China Sugars.	b. \$ 128.00.
H.K. Wharves.	b. \$ 86.00.
K'loon Docks.	ea. \$ 127.00.
Cements.	b. \$ 11.75.
H.K. Tramways.	ea. \$ 7.00.
Watsons.	ea. \$ 6.75.

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

Honours Degrees in Engineering.

At the Degree Examinations held last June in the University of Hongkong, the Board of Examiners of the Faculty of Engineering awarded degrees to twelve engineering undergraduates. They also decided that the opinion of London examiners should be accepted as to whether the work of three of these undergraduates was of the standard necessary for an honours degree in the University of London.

The awards were made by Professors Stephen Dixon, M.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., and T. Mather, F.R.S., M.I.E.E., examiners in engineering subjects in the London University, and have now come to hand.

The examiners state that Mr. Poo Ping-sheung "has reached the standard required at the University of London B.Sc. Examination for First Class Honours," and that Messrs. Tang Ying-lam and Leung Nai-hang have reached the standard of Second Class Honours with "very good marks" and "good marks" respectively.

P. & O. COMPANY.

Mr. E.V.D. Parr Appointed Local Superintendent.

The official announcement that Mr. E.V.D. Parr has succeeded the late Mr. E. A. Hewitt as Superintendent of the P. & O. Company in Hongkong, has given considerable pleasure, not only to the shipping public but also to his very many friends in the Colony. For some 12 years he has been a popular member of the staff in Hongkong, where he has been a very familiar figure.

Mr. Parr joined the staff of the P. & O. Company as early as 1889, as junior in the London office, and after remaining there for a period of five years he was sent to the East. Since then he has held responsible positions at Bombay, Calcutta, Yokohama and Shanghai. From the time he joined in the London office he has rapidly climbed the ladder in one of the biggest shipping Companies in the world and has given valuable services to the Company, which has shown that it highly appreciates the services he has rendered by promoting him to his present appointment.

When Mr. Parr first joined the Company it possessed a fleet of only 125,300 tons, but to-day its fleet comprises no less than 1,500,000 tons, including the vessels coming under the company's ownership since the taking over of the British India Company and the New Zealand Shipping Company. Mr. Parr has been acting as superintendent here since Mr. Hewitt's death, and we join with his many friends in congratulating him on his well-deserved promotion.

Land Sale.

At the Public Works Department, this afternoon, a sale by auction took place of Island Lot No. 2218, Kennedy Road. The area of the land sold was 11,326 square feet, the annual rent being \$78. It was purchased at the upset price of \$2,265 by Mr. Li Sang-wang, the owner of the adjoining property.

THE FAR EAST IN PARLIAMENT.

Excess Profits Duty.

(Nov. 28.) Mr. G. T. Bassett, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, if his attention had been drawn to the effect of the excess profits duty upon the investment of spare funds in Government securities; was he aware that a rubber company which desired to invest \$10,000 in five per cent. Treasury bills found that, as a result of doing so, its capital would be regarded as correspondingly reduced and its assessable profits increased by \$1,000, making it liable to an additional 2600 of duty; that as the income, derived from the Treasury bills would be \$500, the company would be \$100 a year worse off through investing in Treasury bills than if it left the \$10,000 on current account earning no interest, and, in view of the discouragement to investment in Government securities, would he consider the desirability of adopting measures to exempt such securities from the operation of the excess profits duty rules as regarded investment.

Mr. McKenna writes in reply: My attention has been called to this matter. In the case mentioned the balance of advantage turns upon the question whether the investment would constitute a withdrawal of capital from employment in the business. The incentive to divert funds from business-use to investment in Government securities varies in different cases, and the excess profits duty frequently operates to lessen any disadvantage attaching to such action. I see, therefore, no sufficient ground for taking measures of the character suggested.

Transferred German Steamers.

(Nov. 30) Mr. Balfour, answering a question by Mr. Gerthom Stewart, as to whether a steamer lately wrecked on the Goodwin Sands was until quite recently a German steamer, said:—The vessel in question flew the German flag before the war. She was, however, under charter to a neutral firm, who were in possession of an option to purchase her. On the outbreak of war this firm sought permission to exercise their option, and His Majesty's Government, in consultation with their Allies, consented subject to certain stipulations, which had the object of ensuring that she could not possibly be run in the interest of the enemy. Five other enemy vessels have been transferred to neutral flags under somewhat similar circumstances. It is very improbable that at this period of the war their number will be increased. The shipwrecked vessel flew the American flag. The nationality of the crew is not known to the Admiralty, except that, in so far as the transfer of flag, there are no enemy subjects among them.

Japan's Loan to Britons. (December 4.) Mr. McKenna, replying to Mr. Watt, said: I am glad to have this opportunity to inform the House that an agreement was signed last week with the Japanese Financial Commissioner in London on behalf of certain Japanese banks which have undertaken to issue British Exchequer bonds of the value of 100,000,000 yen to the public in Japan. The loan will have a currency of three years, and will be issued at par, and bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. The loan is designed to assist in meeting liabilities in the United States of America, by taking advantage of the favourable rate of exchange in Tokyo with that country. The whole proceeds of the loan will be at once remitted to New York. The House, I am sure, will greatly appreciate the valuable assistance which our Allies have thus afforded us. (Cheers.)

The Netherlands Overseas Trust. Lord B. Cecil, invited by Sir H. Dalziel to state the terms and obligations entered into by Dutch merchants with the Netherlands Overseas Trust on condition of obtaining import licences, said:—There are different forms of contract and guarantee required by the Netherlands Overseas Trust of Dutch importers before permission to import is given. These vary according to the nature and

REVUE COSTUMES.

L.C.C. Refuse to Renew New Middlesex Theatre Licence.

The London County Council, sitting to consider the recommendations of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, refused by 38 votes to 3 to renew the licence for the New Middlesex Theatre, Drury lane.

The Amalgamated Musicians' Union and the National Orchestral Association appealed against the renewal of the licence.

Mr. J. B. Williams, secretary of the Union, said that songs and incidents of questionable character had formed part of the performance, and he alleged that, notwithstanding the warning of the Committee certain incidents had been repeated without modification.

Mr. Graydon, the manager, stated in regard to a scene in which a lady appeared, on the stage with practically nothing on but a muff, that when the muff was removed, it revealed the aristie dressed in the costume of a "principal boy."

When the case of the London Hippodrome came up Mr. Johnson moved an amendment to make the renewal conditional upon the licensee giving an undertaking to exercise greater care in future to ensure that the performance was free from anything of an objectionable character.

He remarked that the London Hippodrome was the only show in London which he had cared to visit for a second time. He had taken his own boys and their friends there for happy, innocent amusement, and he was rather jealous for the Hippodrome's good name.

He quoted a number of newspaper criticisms in reference to the production of the revue "Flying Colours," on September 18, which took exception to an incident depicting a tailor measuring a fat lady for a dress. Mr. Sylvani Mayer, K.O. for the Hippodrome, said the incident in London which he had cared to visit for a second time. He had taken his own boys and their friends there for happy, innocent amusement, and he was rather jealous for the Hippodrome's good name.

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Mr. Sylvani Mayer, K.O. for the Hippodrome, said the incident in question was withdrawn before the criticisms appeared. The management unreservedly gave an assurance that such an incident should not occur again. It was an uncharred incident.

General Smith-Dorrien had

written a letter to the management stating that he had seen "Flying Colours," and he had seen nothing in the least suggestive in words or acts. After a statement like that from the self-appointed censor, added counsel, it was unnecessary for him to say more.

Mr. Mayer having given the necessary undertaking, Mr. Johnson withdrew his amendment, and the renewal of the licence was confirmed.

value of the goods to be imported and the circumstances of the import. Generally speaking, it may be said that the following obligations have to be undertaken by the importers:—To deposit either securities with the trust or a money guarantee with a bank; to ship the goods by a steamship company which has subscribed to the Netherlands Overseas Trust company; that the goods and products manufactured therefrom are destined exclusively for use in Holland or for such re-export as is authorized by the trust; that the importer or buyer has a direct interest in the goods and is not a forwarding agent, nor an agent of a belligerent Government; and generally that all conditions imposed by the trust as regards delivery and disposal of the goods are observed.

Sir H. Dalziel asked whether a firm importing did not enter into an obligation not to export goods to Germany. Lord B. Cecil: Yes, sir. Sir G. Younger (Ayr Burghs, U.) asked what means were taken to secure that the obligation was carried out. Lord B. Cecil: The execution of the matter is left in the hands of the trust, but we have every reason to believe, after very repeated inquiries, that the trust carries out their obligations to the full.

The Netherlands Overseas Trust, Lord B. Cecil, invited by Sir H. Dalziel to state the terms and obligations entered into by Dutch merchants with the Netherlands Overseas Trust on condition of obtaining import licences, said:—There are different forms of contract and guarantee required by the Netherlands Overseas Trust of Dutch importers before permission to import is given. These vary according to the nature and

THE SOUL OF ALSACE.

An Army of Guards.

Almost Present Point on the Peak.

With the French army, Nov. 29.—Immediately south of Thann and the valley of the Thur the eastern line of the Vosges is continued by the foothills of the Ballon d'Alsace, and from any of these, and from one in particular, you get a nearer and more intimate view of the plain of Alsace than from the higher summits to the north.

From the slopes and base of Hartmannswillerkopf, far away on the left, the French and German trenches stretch southwards across the plain, at a distance of about 800 yards, towards Pisterhausen and the Swiss frontier. Except for those two ugly yellow lines ruled across the plain like lines in the first page of a rote-book, there is hardly a sign or a sound of war. The tall chimneys of Mulhausen on the further side of them are sending up thick, straight columns of black smoke into the still air.

There the Germans are busy—but only on appearance. It would be a simple matter for the French to place guns in these hills which could destroy those chimneys. But that, for various reasons, they do not choose to do.

Their policy in Alsace is, however, influenced by a much stronger motive than the mere natural disinclination to destroy material wealth which they are confident will one day be restored to them. All of them, from the Government and the mill-owning staff-captain to the humblest poilu in the ranks, have the feeling that Alsace and the Alsatians are properly part and parcel of France, and that one of their main duties in the present war is to release them from the oppressive domination of the German. That is also the feeling of the great mass of the Alsatians themselves, at all events in the district west of Mulhausen.

By way of a ballon d'essai, I repeated to a French officer, particularly well placed for feeling the national pulse, a statement which had been made to me that only 20 per cent. of the Alsatians are French at heart. "People who say that," he answered, "know nothing whatever about the present state of feeling in Alsace. There are, of course, in my district—the whole of the reconquered territory—a certain number of Germanophiles and even of pure Germans. But by far the greater proportion of the population are with us heart and soul, and hail us as their deliverers from the reign of barbarism."

Of the truth of that statement I saw everywhere unmistakable signs. When the little gamin by the wayside, all wearing bonnets de police or Chasseurs berets, cry Vive la France, their cry is a sort of a roar, in one of the schools—the older part of which has been horribly mutilated by German shells—I visited three separate classes of children, mostly little girls of from four to nine years of age, each presided over by a sweet-faced religieuse in black robe and snow-white coif. Some months ago the only language was the Alsatian patois. Now they all speak French, and sing French songs, and the older ones are learned in French history (and the story of previous German invasions). They take to it all like ducks to water—after they have been coaxed up in a wire-fenced chicken-run.

And it is the same with their elders. Here and there you come across a scowling face, the owner of which, obviously, abhors the sight of kaki over white uniforms. But these cases are few and far between. And all along the valley of the Thur and the Doller there is no question about it that the German is detested, and the Frenchman beloved. There is no mistaking the depth and sincerity of this feeling. The people of Alsace are a people who have awakened from a bad dream. They are revelling in the sweet of liberty, and are only looking forward to the day when all their kaki and kin will share them with them.

So are the clergy—the old faith, courteous, benevolent, who have given for this day since 1871, not the young, Sprinberg-trained priesthood, whose German-f

THE GOLD SNAP.

CIVIL CONSCRIPTION.

Text and Preamble of new Civil Conscription Law.

The text of the new German "National Auxiliary Service Bill" (universal civil conscription) is as follows:

1. Every male German subject between the ages of 17-60, if not called to colours, is liable to be enrolled for National Service during the war.

2. Under National Service is included, besides service under the Government or in Governmental institutions, especially work in war industry, in agriculture, in the nursing of sick and wounded, in munition producing factories, of all kinds, or in such other factories as have a direct or indirect bearing on the prosecution of war or the supply of the population with commodities. The control of the National Auxiliary Service is put in the hands of a specially established War Department attached to the Ministry of War.

3. The Bundesrat will issue the necessary instructions. It can punish for contraventions of the law by imprisonment up to one year and a fine of 10,000 marks, together or separately, or by arrest.

4. The law comes into force on the day of promulgation. The Bundesrat will fix the time for its abolition.

In the general preamble to the Act it is said:—

"War work has lacked until now that rigid, homogeneous condensation and regulation which alone is capable of raising the maximum amount of work to the highest possible degree, and of alone guaranteeing complete success. The concentration for this purpose of the whole German population which has not been called to colours, the utilisation for this high aim of the defence of the Fatherland of the national strength, is the problem to solve which the War Department has been created. The law establishes legal compulsion for national auxiliary service.

"As in military service, in the application of this law no consideration will be given to difference in social status. To extend the same compulsion to women appears to be unnecessary, as the work of German women, even without a special inducement, can be obtained in sufficient quantity."

UNION CHURCH GUILD.

The Union Church Guild's syllabus for the first session of the present year is as follows:—

January 10.—Lecture by the Hon. Mr. C. Severn. Subject: "British Malaya."

January 24.—A Scottish Night arranged by Mr. G. M. Shaw.

February 7.—Lecture by Mr. E. R. Dovey. Subject: "Milk and its Adulteration."

February 21.—Magazine Evening arranged by Mrs. Macnischie.

March 7.—Lecture by Rev. J. K. Macnischie. Subject: "The Norwegian Valleys and Fjords."

March 21.—Paper read by Mr. F. M. Mohler. Subject: "The American Poets."

The Colony's Health.

During last week 69 cases of small-pox were notified in the Colony, of which 40 terminated fatally. One of the cases was imported, and the sufferers were two Portuguese and the rest Chinese. There was also one fatal case of diphtheria (Chinese) and one non-fatal occurrence of enteric fever, this being an import Chinese case.

Won the Military Cross.

The following extract is from the Times of November 15, under the Military Cross honours list:—

"Second Lieutenant (Tempy Lieut.) John Paul Jordan, R.A. As F.O.O. he followed, close behind the infantry and established telephonic communication with his battery. Though his O.P. was blown in and his wire cut several times, throughout the day he sent in valuable information." Lieut. Jordan is the eldest son of the late Mr. Paul Jordan, brother of Dr. Jordan, of Hongkong, and has been somewhere in France for the last ten months.

SIR W. ROBERTSON'S WAR WARNING.

"Do the Right Thing, and Do it in Time."

"You wonder how I think the war is going on," said Sir William Robertson, Chief of the General Staff, who visited Bradford College to unveil a stone tablet in memory of the 150 Bradford boys who have fallen in the war.

"We have every reason to be thoroughly satisfied with what we have done up to date," he continued, "seeing the start we have made, and we may look forward to the future with complete confidence, especially bearing in mind that we do the right thing and do it in time. I cannot help but think that the whole Empire and I am referring to the women as well as to the men, to the women who have worked so hard and who have given up so much—is fully ready to make any further sacrifices that its leaders may tell it are necessary in order ultimately to achieve complete victory and to insure that the supreme sacrifice which has been made by so many of the best of our manhood shall not have been made in vain."

"We are now passing through a time of some stress. It is not very great stress yet, but we must expect that it will be much greater in the future. We must remember that success in war, as in nearly everything else, invariably goes to those who show the greatest determination and who can best set their teeth. That is a remark that applies not merely to the soldier and the sailor, but to the people at home, from the highest to the lowest."

They owed a great debt to the Officers' Training Corps. He did not know where the country would have been without them. In the early days of the war many of these boys from the Junior Officers' Training Corps and from the Universities accompanied the first fine Army in the capacity of dispatch riders. He would never forget the fine work they did. No matter what time of the day or night, what weather, wet or fine, the dispatch riders were ready.

On one occasion during the retreat, when things were perhaps at their worst, it was necessary to get instructions to Headquarters. All the dispatch riders were out, and there was no one to send. Then two boys, who had been out for hours and were hot and tired, came in. He did not like to send them because they were not fit, and he told them that he could not send them. They said "Yes, sir, we will go." They went and got through, and

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph."]

SUNDAY'S TELEGRAMS.

THE PEACE QUESTION.

Amsterdam, January 4. The "Kolnische Volkszeitung" states that Germany's peace terms have already been communicated to President Wilson.

Washington, January 6. The States Department states that President Wilson does not contemplate the issue of another Peace Note.

After a debate lasting three days the Senate rejected the motion, approving President Wilson's Note to the Powers, and then adopted a Republican resolution approving merely the President's request for peace terms.

AUSTRIAN POLITICS.

Amsterdam, January 4.

The "Vossische Zeitung" states that the Austrian Emperor has summoned Count Julius Andrássy, the leading opponent of Count Tisza, to Vienna. The formation of a coalition cabinet is more probable than the immediate resignation of Count Tisza.

RAJAH'S GIFTS.

London, January 4.

A number of beautiful presents has been received from Rajahs for the great Red Cross sale at Christie's at the end of March.

ORIENTAL STUDIES.

London, January 4.

The King will open the School of Oriental Studies at the end of February. The student's classes will begin on 16th January.

THE KITCHENER MEMORIAL FUND.

London, January 4.

The Kitchener National Memorial Fund now exceeds £400,000.

MRS. CORNWALLIS WEST.

London, January 5.

The "Daily Mail" states that Mrs. Cornwallis West has decided to retire from public work of all kinds.

NEWSPAPER CHANGES HANDS.

London, January 5.

The Radical M.P., Sir Henry Dalziel, has bought the "Pall Mall Gazette."

Sir Henry is Managing Director of "Reynold's News-paper."

THE SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN.

London, January 5.

The following sinkings are reported:—The steamers Leon (French), Odda (Norwegian), San Leandro (Spanish), Dimitrios, Goulandros, Aristotelis and Ciannawo (Greek).

London, January 6.

The sinking of the San Leandro has excited furious indignation in Spain. The Spanish Government has already repeatedly and vehemently protested against the sinking of Spanish vessels.

AN INDIAN APPOINTMENT.

London, January 4.

General Sir Edmund Barrow has been appointed a member of the Council of India in succession to General Sir C. C. Egerton.

London, January 5.

The "Times" states that General Barrow's appointment is unusually interesting under present circumstances and fittingly crowns a most distinguished career in the Indian Army. He has borne the brunt of much of the heavy additional work cast upon the India Office by the employment of Indian troops in so many theatres of war.

PRISONERS TAKEN IN 1916.

London, January 5.

Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters states that the Allies in 1916 took 562,423 prisoners, exclusive of those taken in Egypt and East Africa.

The French took 76,000, of whom 23,000 were captured at Verdun and 51,540 on the Somme. The British took 40,000, the Italians 53,250, the Russians 400,000 and the Macedonian Army 11,173.

Estimates of the enemy's total casualties in France during 1916 place them at a million.

BRITAIN'S GREAT WAR LOAN.

London, January 5.

The forthcoming new great war loan is assured of a most favourable reception, not only by financiers but by the public generally. The terms have not yet been announced, but the prospectus is expected in the next few days. Sufficient is known to make it certain that the loan will be highly attractive, affording a long-dated investment with a rate of interest highly remunerative. There is a general belief that there will be other attractions of a minor but substantial character. Part of the loan will be issued with dividends free of income tax.

London, January 5.

It is officially announced that the new war loan will be issued on Thursday.

London, January 6.

The issue of "the biggest loan in history" has dwarfed all financial questions.

The secret of the conditions is still carefully guarded, but the confidence in the market is shown in the fact that the price of gilt-edged securities has been steadily rising this week.

The general idea is that the loan will yield 5½ per cent. The "Times" forecasts that the loan will be unlimited in amount, and it expects that with conversions and new money it will represent the unprecedented amount of £2,000,000,000 (two thousand millions of pounds sterling).

In expectation of a rush the Bank of England has engaged outside premises. It is estimated that the prospectuses, etc., will require 300 tons of paper and will cost £15,000.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph."]

INDO-FRENCH TRADE.

London, January 5.

Regarding the mission to France, Messrs. Chadwick and Black will investigate the possibilities of the development of Indo-French trade. The "Times" expresses gratification that Mr. Chamberlain and the Raj have taken the preliminary step in the direction of giving effect to the policy of promoting Allied trade, laid down at the Paris conference. It points out that in some ways the task will be less complex than their investigation in Russia, since much data already exists regarding Indo-French commerce.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, January 5.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—An enemy raiding party entered our lines southward of Loos, where there was heavy fighting. The enemy was speedily driven out, leaving a number of dead. Some British are missing.

We successfully exploded a mine northward of Givenchy and bombarded trenches opposite Les Bocufs and Gueudecourt, westward of Goumecourt and in the neighbourhood of Hill 60.

London, January 6.

A French communiqué states that there was considerable reciprocal artillery activity on the Woerre front.

THE BALKAN STRUGGLE.

London, January 5.

A wireless German official message states that the Germano-Bulgars have captured Braila, and adds that the Dobrudja is now cleared of the enemy.

THE KAISER'S BOMBAST.

Amsterdam, January 6.

It is officially stated that the Kaiser, in an Order to the Army and Navy, states: Our enemies have refused my offers of peace. They desire Germany's destruction. Before God and humanity I declare the heavy responsibility for further terrible sacrifices rests on our enemies who do not want the understanding offered by me. With God's help our arms will enforce it.

INDIA AND THE WAR CABINET.

London, January 6.

Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for India, interviewed by Reuter, said he was in correspondence with the Viceroy regarding the selection of two representatives of India on the Imperial War Cabinet. The Imperial Government's formal recognition of India's great assistance in the war and of her position in the Empire would give great satisfaction in India and would be well received in the Dominions. He had received communications from Dominion soldiers, especially of the forces which were engaged in Gallipoli, highly praising the gallantry of the Indian troops and the devotion of the Indian bearer companies.

THE KAISER AND HIS DISCIPLES.

Amsterdam, January 5.

The Archduke Frederick and General Hoetendorff (Austrian Chief of Staff) lunched with the Kaiser at Headquarters. There were also present the Crown Prince Boris of Bulgaria, General von Hindenburg, General Ludendorff, and General Jekoff (Bulgarian Chief of Staff).

The Kaiser bestowed the Order of Merit on the Archduke.

HOPES OF VICTORY.

Paris, January 6.

General Nivelle, Commander-in-Chief on the Western Front, in a New Year address to the Army, said:

"You can look back on the past year with pride. You smashed Germany's biggest onslaught at Verdun, and you proved your ever-growing superiority on the Somme. In rivalry with your British comrades you will make 1917 a year of victory."

A BIG WAR CONFERENCE.

London, January 6.

Mr. Lloyd George's arrival in Rome was a big surprise. The French party includes M. Briand (French Premier), General Lyautey (French Minister of War) and M. Thomas (French Minister of Munitions), while General Palitina represents Russia.

The fact that Rome has been selected for what is likely to be the biggest War Conference has aroused great enthusiasm in Rome, where Mr. Lloyd George is already a popular hero, and as regarded as the most tangible proof to the whole world of the absolute accord of the Allies.

THE GREEK CRISIS.

London, January 6.

Reservists Blow Up a Bridge.

The "Times" correspondent at Syra says it is reported that Greek Reservists have blown up a bridge south of Larissa in order to impede the transport of Royalist troops to Peloponnesus (in compliance with the Allies' demands).

MR. F.C. SELOUS KILLED.

London, January 6.

Mr. F. C. Selous, the famous hunter of big game, who has been serving in the Legion of Frontiersmen in East Africa, has been killed in action.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

London, January 6.

The trade returns for 1916 are as follows:

Imports £49,152,879

Exports £60,546,212

The imports show an increase of £9,259,329, and the exports an increase of £21,077,764.

The imports for December were £76,406,306 showing an increase of £3,078,391; the exports amounted to £89,028,480, showing an increase of £8,080,041.

HONGKONG SHARE REPORT.

S.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;

B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

b. \$700

Cantons b. \$375

North Chinas b. £100

Unions b. \$910

Yangtze b. ex 73 \$255

FIRE INSURANCES.

China Fires b. \$155

H. K. Fires b. \$375

SHIPPING.

Doughs b. \$1154

Steamboats b. \$20

Indos (Def.) b. \$184

Indos (Pref.) b. \$46

Shells b. 108/-

Ferries b. \$38

REFINERIES.

Sugars b. \$128

Malabons b. \$37

MINING.

Kallans b. 36/-

Langkats b. £22

Raubs b. \$2,40

Tronchos b. 31/6

Urals b. 32/3

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &C.

H. K. Wharves b. \$36

Kowloon Docks b. \$126

Shai Docks b. t. 89

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.

Centrals b. \$101

H. K. Hotels b. \$115

Land Invest. b. \$95

H'phreys Est. b. \$8.89

K'loon Lands b. \$35

Shai Lands b. t. 91

West Points b. \$85

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos b. x. d. t. 145

Kung Yiks b. x. d. t. 14

Shai Cottons b. x. d. t. 115

Yangtzeppos b. x. d. t. 68

MISCELLANEOUS.

Borneos b. \$8/4

China Light & P. b. \$47.6

Providents b. \$8.83

Dairy Farms b. \$25/

Green Islands b. \$11,66

H. K. Electrics b. \$58

H. K. Ice Co. b. \$160

Ropes b. \$34/

Steel Foundries b. \$9/4

Trams, Low Levelsa b. \$7,00

Trams, Peak, oldn. b. \$10

Trams, Peak, newn. b. \$1

Laundries b. \$3/

U. Waterboats b. \$16,00

Watsons b. \$6/

Wm. Powells b. \$6.25

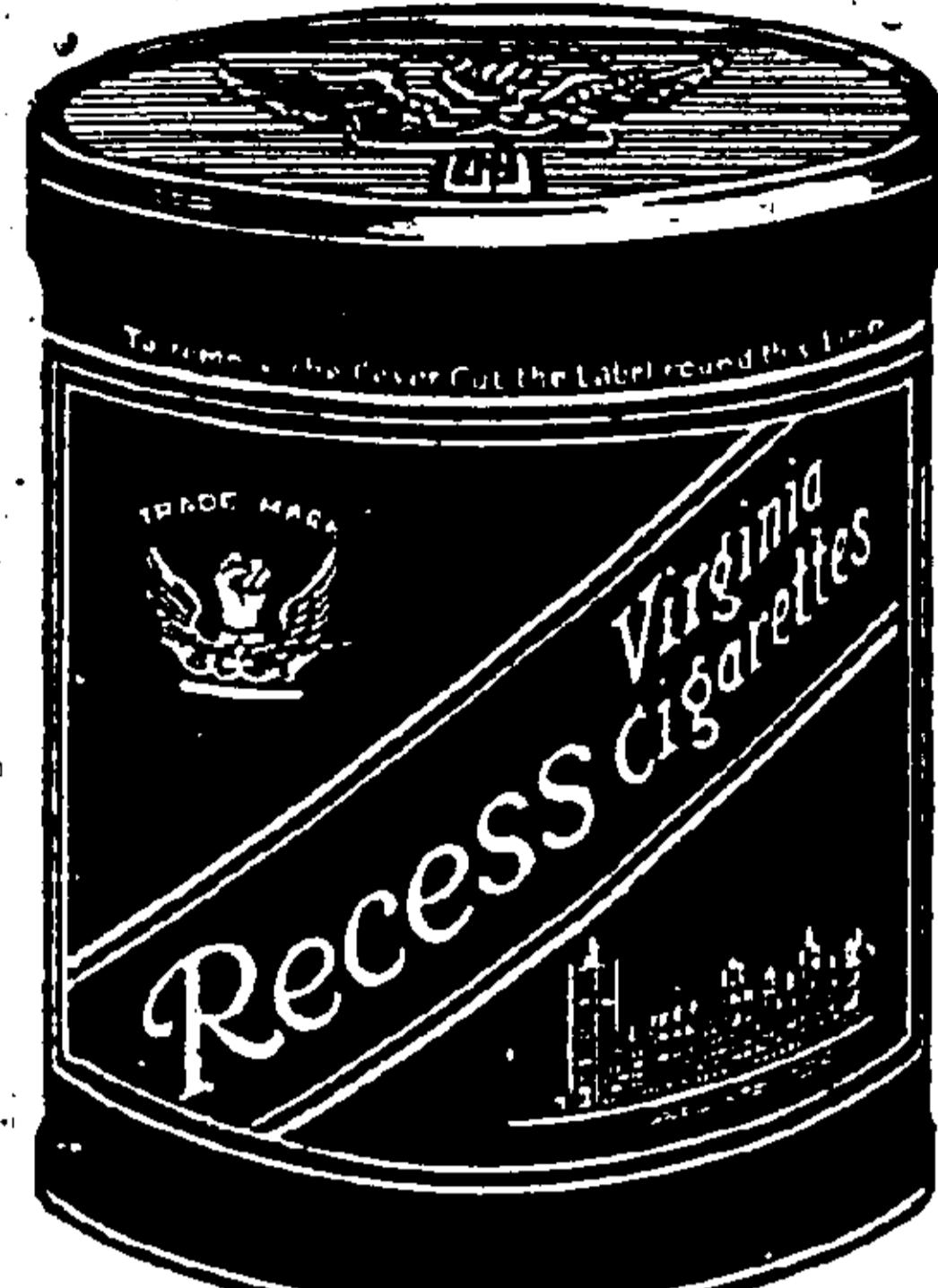
Morning Posts b. \$29

CORRECTED TO NOON MONDAY

NOTICES.

"RECESS"

HIGH GRADE VIRGINIA CIGARETTES.



MANUFACTURED BY

WESTMINSTER TOBACCO CO. LTD.

"SPRFAD-EA LE SM."

G. F. R.

The Downfall of the Clyde as a Shipbuilding Centre.

It would be a pity if the following choice tit-bit from the *Philadelphia Ledger* escaped publicity only in the States, so we reproduce it in these columns.

An unbiased Government report shows that the Delaware is the centre of world shipbuilding. More tonnage is going forward to completion here than in any other of the earth's famous districts. The Delaware is not the Clyde of America. The Clyde is now the Delaware of Great Britain. This important industry is no mere creation on our great river. It has come steadily and by ordered advances.

It has risen upon the solid foundation of skill, backed by the most favouring and favourable locality on the two American continents. We have the materials, the fuel, the labour, the capital and the brains behind all of them combined. The Delaware has come into its kingdom in this industry legitimately and will hold it because it deserves to hold it. To-day the United States Government is looking around to find a suitable spot upon which to build an armour-plate plant. Strip the selection of a site of politics, partisanship and sectionalism and there could be but one honest place to erect an armour plant. That is upon the Delaware, which uses more armour than any other district. As Philadelphia is naturally the centre of the Delaware shipbuilding work, this city is just as naturally the right place for the armour-plate mill.

Naturally, and at the risk of taking our contemporary seriously, it refers only, we suspect to mercantile tonnage; what a shock it would receive if we could but give the Clyde's output for the navy. It would in all probability represent a greater tonnage than the whole of the yards in the States combined!—Journal of Commerce.

CHAMPAGNE SENNEVAL.



"CONNOISSEURS' CHOICE." This wine is well-bodied, delicate, delicious and unquestionably the finest Champagne. It is equal to the high priced Champagnes now on the market. Sold by:

The WING ON Company Ltd.

RUBBER SHARE REPORT.

PRICES BY MAIL From SINGAPORE Dated Dec. 22nd, 1916.

Sterling Shares.

Nom. Value. Buyers. Sellers.

2/- Shares.

Allagar	2/8	2/9
Anglo-Java	4/-	6/-
Anglo-Malay	10/-	12/-
Batang Malaka	3/2	3/6
Bekok	3/3	3/9
Bkt. Martajam	3/6	4/6
Bkt. Sembawang	3/11	3/6
Chersonese (F.M.S.)	3/3	4/-
Chinapul	1/6	1/10
Cicely	17/6	20/-
Cicely Pref.	18/-	21/-
Consolidated	10/-	12/6
Heawood	2/3	2/8
Kamuning Perak	5/3	5/9
Kota Tinggi	2/5	2/9
Labu (F.M.S.)	6/-	7/6
Linggi Ord.	18/-	20/-
London A. R.	6/6	7/6
Merlimau	4/6	5/6
Padang Jawa	3/-	3/6
Pateling	30/-	35/-
Perak	5/-	6/6
Port Dickson	2/4	3/-
Selangor	22/6	25/-
S'pore Para	3/-	3/6
S'pore United	2/7	2/11
Str. Settlements (Bertram)	2/13	5/12
Sumatra Para	6/3	7/6
Untd. Serdang		
Sumatra		
Untd. Sumatra	11/6	13/-
Untd. Sumatra	6/6	7/6
Untd. Temiung	2/0	3/3
Yallambros	15/3	17/9

	2/- Shares.
Batu Tiga	60/-
Bkt. Rajah	13/-
Castlefield	10/-
Damansara	65/-
H'lands & L'lands	50/-
Kuala Lumpur	80/-
Lamadron	40/-
Lengon (Java)	45/-
Ledbury	50/-
Lumut	50/-
Malacca R. P.	37/6
Ord.	80/-
" 7 th Pref.	70/-
Nordanal	21/-
Permas	28/6
Pegoh	42/6
Bombia Ord.	28/-
Bombia Pref.	24/-
Rubber Plant	
Invest	
Sapong	21/-
Seafield	24/-
Seremban	80/-
Siak	17/6
Sialang	27/6
S'gei Way	60/-
Toborau (Johore)	75/-
Untd. Sua Betong	60/-
Dollar Shares.	
Si Shares.	
Alor Gajah	8.75
Ayer Kuning	1.40
Ayer Molak	2.33
Balownis	4.70
Bkt. Jelutong	.66
Bkt. Katil	.75
Glenely	.85
Jeram	2.30
Jimah	1.90
Malaka Pinda	1.75
Mandai Takong	1.90
Pantai	1.85
Tambak	.90
Ulu Pandan	.80
Untd. Malacca	1.00
\$2 Shares.	
Kempas	7.50
Malakoff	4.70
New Serendah	4.10
Sandycroft	6.75
S'gei Bagan	8.40
Trafalgar	1.40
\$5 Shares.	
Ayer Panas	11.00
Ch'kat Serdang	9.25
Haytor	10.00
Kelamak	6.00
Lunas	6.75
Menggol	4.75
Nyalas	6.50
Pejam	19.00
Radella	11.00
Taluk Anson	11.85
\$10 Shares.	
Bukit Timah	12.00
Indrajiri	12.00
Pulau Belang	5.25
Tapah	20.00

	\$5 Shares.
Ayer Panas	11.00
Ch'kat Serdang	9.25
Haytor	10.00
Kelamak	6.00
Lunas	6.75
Menggol	4.75
Nyalas	6.50
Pejam	19.00
Radella	11.00
Taluk Anson	11.85
\$10 Shares.	
Bukit Timah	12.00
Indrajiri	12.00
Pulau Belang	5.25
Tapah	20.00

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, by George Willers, Cade Burnett at 11, Ice House Street, in the City of Victoria Hong Kong.

POST OFFICE.

MAIL NOTICE.

The Post Office issues the following notification:

Particulars of outgoing and incoming Mails will not be advertised in future. The Post Office will forward all correspondence posted by the fastest routes.

Persons requiring special information must apply at the enquiry counter in the Public Hall of the G.P.O.

The rates of postage on letters to the Chinese Post Offices are now as follows:—

To Canton, Fatsien, Chan Chuan and Wampoa 2 cents for 14 Ounces.

To other parts of China 4 cents for each Ounce or fraction thereof.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Liberia and Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Service to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

LOCAL AND REGULAR MAIIS OUTWARD.

Tai O.—Week days, 3 p.m.

Tai Po.—Week days, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 9.30 a.m.

Cheung Chow.—Week days, 2 p.m.

Shatukok, Shatin and Shengshui.—Week days, 4 p.m.

Aberdeen, Autau, Ping Shan, Sai Kung, Santan and Stanley.—Week days, 4.30 p.m.

Canton, Samshui and Wuchow.—Week days, 7.30 a.m., Register ion 5 p.m., Letters 6 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m.

Macao.—Week days, 7.15 a.m., 1.30 p.m., Sundays, 9 a.m.

Kongmoon.—Week days, 6 p.m. Except Saturdays; Sundays, 3 p.m.

Nantau and Sammei.—Week days, 5 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m.

Shamchun.—Week days, 10 a.m., 4 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.

Wuchow.—Week days, 6 p.m. Except Saturdays; Sundays, 5 p.m.

Tai Ping Tung.—Week days, 9.30 p.m.; Sunday, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.

Shak KL.—Week days, 9.30 p.m.; Sunday, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.

Carson.—Week days, 9.30 a.m., 9.30 p.m.; Sunday, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.

Tai Ping Tung.—Week days, 9.30 a.m., 9.30 p.m.; Sunday, 9.30 a.m.; Holidays, 9.30 a.m.

Kongmoon.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Kumchuk.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Kaukang.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Amoy.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Swatow.

Taihau.

Ichang.

Kinkiang.

Changsha.

Shanghai.

Gutiaff.

Sharp P.

Amoy.

Swatow.

Taihau.

Tainan.

Kochu.

Porto.

Amoy.

Swatow.

Taihau.